

THE MAGAZINE OF THE



NATIONAL SPASTICS SOCIETY

JANUARY 1963

PRICE 6d.

SPASTICS NEWS



**NATIONAL SPASTICS
SOCIETY**

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COMMENT

THE BRIDGE

In its second decade of life, the N.S.S. can look back with pleasure and pride to its early difficult years, when so many good men came to the aid of the party. It can look forward to different problems, some of them arising from the progress made during the first ten years.

We have made a compact with the future, and have committed ourselves to improve and expand, on a substantial scale, the services we provide for spastics and their parents.

The Social Workers' service, about which you will read in these pages, will be part of this expansion. It has become, and will continue to be, one of the most important means by which hope and help can reach the cerebrally palsied and their families. It is a bridge between need and knowledge and facilities.

Help these people to help you.



IN THIS ISSUE

Editor: Eve Renshaw

Vol. IX No.1

January, 1963

	PAGE
Comment	2
Front Cover Story	3
Families and Society	4
Regional Social Work	5
Parent's Training Course	6
Hawksworth Hall	7
The Assessment Service	8
Towards Adult Life	9
The Concert	10
Country Wide	11
Employment News	14
News in Brief	14
Schools and Centres	16
Typewriting for Spastics	18
Book Review	20
Crossword Puzzle	20
Small Advertisements	21
National Centres of the N.S.S.	22
Affiliated Groups of the N.S.S.	23

FRONT COVER

THE social worker is the family friend at the interview. It is her job to be sure the parents are at ease and able to gain the knowledge they seek. Miss Booth, our Senior Family Caseworker, makes friends with a family in the waiting room.

Families and Society

by E. F. Townsend, Senior Social Worker

I FIND it helpful in my work to consider society as a whole and not cerebral palsy in isolation. There has always been and will always be a need for charity in the true sense of loving service. The handicapped child generates in its parents and in the society around it both passion and compassion. These fine human concepts, however, have in the end to be tempered by acceptance, trust and faith—which are in the end love; and love is reality. It is necessary for the person devoting a working life to social service to keep ideals in mind and to be sure that in themselves, in the people they work with and the people they work for, ideals are kept close to reality and not, even unconsciously, turned and used to a non-valid and unrealistic end. We have to watch love, kindness and proper protection of the child and see where these true sentiments lose their effectiveness and deviate into the negative, by becoming shaded with emotional, aggressive and over-excited attitudes. The difference is a fine balance.

The way in which an injured child will be received and nurtured in its home is dependent not, as many believe, purely upon the degree of his handicap but, much farther back, upon the reasons and the values that parents had when marrying: their desires for themselves, for their children, their needs of one another and what they, as persons, can offer the world. If the parents have not in themselves found love and fulfilment, they will tend to project their dissatisfactions and their reasons for failing to be happy, on to the child, who is perhaps defenceless in his handicap.

As social workers we have first the need to know our own shortcomings, to examine our own reasons and lives, and to bring such understanding as we have achieved, including the acceptance of our own failures, forward into the family. This ability, supported by a training in the structure and psychology of society as a whole, gives us a ground for human contact with, and real support of, the family.

Help from Many Sources

It would be wrong to assume that every family having an injured child will need the help of a social worker. It would be equally wrong to believe that other, apparently more fortunate, families are without this need. Our country has a vast network of social services and a long tradition of trained casework. Social service, in all its aspects, should be available to our families, both in practical and more intangible ways.

We, as a Society, would be wrong to monopolise families. We have to guard against the inclination to take moral responsibility for the whole family on the slim ground that there is, within the family, a handicapped child. It is our duty as social workers to see clearly when the family has a problem which needs social work for the handicapped child and when it has a problem which is in the general nature of community problems and, having seen this, to decide whether to continue in all round service or whether to divert some of the work to others experienced in ways more appropriate to the immediate

family need. We must face the fact that the family may see this as default on our part, and, if necessary, be willing, in their own interests, to have them feel some temporary rejection. For example, there are many problems for which probation service, mental health work and marriage counselling may be better for the situation than anything we at the N.S.S. can offer. Likewise, at a practical level, centres, schools and services outside the N.S.S. may sometimes be of greater value to a child than any facilities we can provide. We must have the courage to tell the parents these facts when they arise and to explain our reasons clearly.

Against Isolation

The brain-injured child is, in many ways, the most injured child there can be, because the handicap, like an iceberg, has perhaps one-third showing and two-thirds submerged. Of the submerged two-thirds, half may be known to the parents and to the highly trained workers dealing with brain injury in all its aspects. Still there remains that last, shadowed part, of whose existence the initiated and knowing are aware. It is the awareness of this totally submerged degree of handicap which makes the difference between the parent who will succeed, the worker who will succeed, and those who will not.

The social worker has to be an emotional bridge between blunt fact and the danger of over-strain in the family from taking these burdens too hard and too fast. Often the newly-aware parents of a handicapped child are in a state of numbed shock, having been given clearly and factually the dreaded confirmation of fears they have long held. Confirmation of the physical and perhaps added mental handicap at first seems like the end of life. Life goes on, because the more subtle daily difficulties have to be dealt with—like feeding a choking child—not merely coping with the physical hazards of this, but facing the sensitivities and emotions which this arouses within. Both the first shock and the perpetual daily chore form a hard core of enforced withdrawal from the activities and atmosphere of the rest of society.

It is against this isolation that parents of spastics first founded the N.S.S. Their aims were twofold: practical aid to reduce physical and emotional strain, and the informed friendship of trained workers in all the various fields of help. Add to this the common feeling and cameraderie of the parent group, and we have the elements of a true community service. We in the Social Work Department feel we hold a trust. We hold the aims of the parent Society dear, for they are the framework of our task. It is for us to listen, to act as a yardstick, to bring our sight of 1,000 other children to temper the sight the parents have of their one child. We must help, in contact, to assure the parents of parallels and to help them see that their child will first have all the problems that face a normal child—which must be dealt with by normal parental action—and that added to this there will be special problems which need special care and aid. The balance between normal need and special need in the child must be early established

if he is to be a full member of the family and of the world outside. Even the most handicapped child can be a full individual within his limit. He can be either a member of the family who has difficulties or, if balance is not achieved, he can just be a difficulty—a handicap rather than a person.

Parental Training and Acceptance

If we take an example of the worst degree of handicap—a child totally physically dependent, without speech and with little social recognition—this can add up to the mother being a 24-hour attendant upon the handicapped child, whilst she, her husband and other children, become deprived of normal life. Yet I have seen the mother who has so well accepted the child as having rights to independence that she has created an independent life for him through her own realisation and acceptance of his needs. She will first have had to accept that his smile when being fed, his pleasure in his bath and such simple satisfactions, are his full level of happiness and achievement. The physical strains are no less, but there is no longer the drag of feeling the child unhappy or deprived. A routine can be worked out and mother does not feel guilty when she gives attention to the rest of the family, leaving the handi-

capped child for the moment: in other words, he is an individual, who has a normal distribution of his family's concern. The more the child is accepted as a true entity, the easier his acceptance into the wider society. If neighbours see mother relaxed in his care, they will not fear taking him for a walk or having him for a morning whilst mother goes shopping, and mother won't fear to leave him. The child, too, will be at his maximum contentment, because he is not being pressed into situations beyond his ability.

It must be said here that there are children so injured that they will have the appearance of frustration and bad handling *whatever* the mother, father and family do. It is for us to make this clear in individual cases. Some children will cry all night: some will be helplessly destructive—it is essential that parents should be assured that their child's handicap and not their handling is the cause.

We can bring medical, psychological and social fact about the child. We are there to listen and discuss, to ensure that the maximum specialist and practical help is achieved and to be a happy part of the moves toward acceptance and understanding. Parents—you have the final task of acceptance, in which lesser persons than you would fail.

Regional Social Work

by V. L. Chinchen

THE N.S.S. is beginning to establish regional social work. Social Workers will be appointed who will be responsible for selected areas of the country. Those social workers dealing with specialised facets of the work will still be in London. The establishment of Regional Social Workers will develop alongside the setting up of Family Help Units and the two will be closely linked.

The first Regional Social Worker, Miss Ballance, is already established in the Northern Home Counties, and for the past few months has been dealing with the social work in the area.

The first Parent Help Unit—The Mount, in Nottingham—is being built and should be ready for occupation towards the middle of 1963. The Warden Designate of the Unit, Mr. Brunton, who is a Social Worker, has already established himself in Nottingham where he is busy visiting families and carrying out the tasks associated with launching a new project.

New Approach

The Mount will be experimental—a completely new approach to helping parents and children. It is envisaged that the unit will provide short-term residential accommodation for children whose parents are temporarily unable to care for them, perhaps through the mother's ill health, some domestic crisis, or just because mother and father can do with a rest. This side of the unit will be staffed by qualified nurses supplemented at a specialist level, where necessary, by

physiotherapists, speech therapists, occupational therapists and nursery teachers. Also working with the Family Help Unit will be mobile advisers who will have nursing and family welfare training. They will visit the children in their homes, and when desired even stay a few days, to help parents deal with difficulties they may be experiencing in physically handling and training their child. The N.S.S. feel there is a growing need for local service from which parents can obtain advice and practical help on any and every aspect of cerebral palsy. We want to foster the idea of care within the local community, of helping the family as a whole, and of treating the handicapped person as an integral part of the family and wider society.

During the early part of 1963, Regional Social Workers who are already at Headquarters hearing about the specialised work of the Society and local requirements, will be established in Wales, East Anglia and S.E. England. Family Help Units will grow at the rate of at least one each year and will finally spread throughout the country, as will regional social work. Through regionalisation the Society will be able to give a better service to spastics and their families by having social workers aware of the particular problems, needs and facilities of the locality..

It will also enable the social worker to work closely with local statutory and voluntary organisations, including local spastics groups, and foster the spirit of co-operation and dedication towards a common cause which characterizes this work through all the country.

Parents' Training Course

Trengweath School and Centre Plymouth



(Above) The surgeon makes friends with a nervous little boy, and approaches the undressing in a non-medical way. To put a child on the examination couch and undress him causes tears. To play on the floor while undressing means co-operation, a good examination and a successful result.

(Right) The children were trained in social behaviour, including how to behave at table, toileting, daily independence and consideration for others in a group

"We all came together for a joint purpose—the benefit of the children. The parents taught us to understand the whole child within his family and we advised the parents about the medical, educational, social and emotional needs of the children. Our trained approach blended with parental experience.

"We all had a happy and fulfilling time. As well as complete assessment, the children had help with nursery and social training and physiotherapy. The staff at Trengweath showed the parents some of the technique and skill of handling special problems.

"Shortly the parents will have a summary of their child's medical and educational status, hints for handling in the home, advice on equipment, and suggestions for planning the child's future. We all enjoyed ourselves and the parents had a good rest—babysitters at night, a coach outing, and nappy service made it a holiday as well as an informative experience."

[E.F.T.]





Hawksworth Hall

In 1958, in a Jacobean mansion on the bleak Yorkshire moors, an apparently hopeless project was put under way.

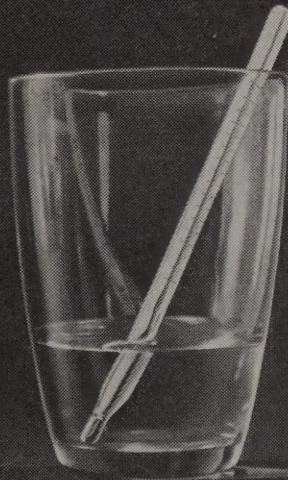
It seemed almost a foregone conclusion that we would be met by failure, since we were taking in children whom the outside world had quite written off—not, perhaps, as human beings, but in the sense that they were ineducable. The modern world well knows that if you are ineducable you are unemployable and probably will need parental or institutional care for the whole of life.

A little miracle took place. Out of over 100 children passing through Hawksworth Hall since 1958, over 40 have been

found educable at some level. Those who had not the ability to respond in a true educational sense gained remarkably in social and emotional training. Of those who have not gone on to school at least half are placed happily in day or residential training centres. The rest are still at home, but parents are glad that they had their chance—and may yet have a chance to go to Meldreth, the school for the unscholarly, which will be opened for them and others like them by 1965. We wish Meldreth could be sooner, but, when it is, it must be good and the wait is worth the prize. Meanwhile, life has grown larger for many of Hawksworth's children.

minor ailments of today

feverishness



When your body is fighting germs, its temperature regulating mechanism is disturbed and your temperature rises. We say, inaccurately and sorrowfully, that we 'have a temperature'—when what we mean is that our temperature is above normal.

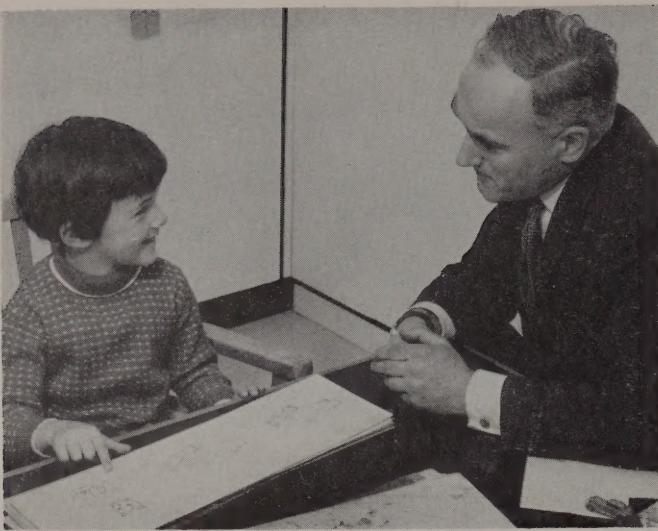
Now some people believe that a raised temperature helps your body to fight infection, and this may be true. But it is also true that a 'temperature' is very uncomfortable, and that you undoubtedly feel a lot better if you take something to bring your temperature down. Feeling better has a lot to do with getting better—and that is why most doctors prescribe acetyl salicylic acid for high temperature, and why most of us take 'ASPRO' when we feel a bit feverish.

Incidentally, 'ASPRO' brings your temperature back to normal and no lower.

Next time you feel feverish, don't forget 'ASPRO'. You will not only be taking one of the best and safest anti-pyretics or fever reducers, but also sparing the Doctor's time for those with more serious complaints. If your fever persists then is the time to consult your Doctor.



A NICHOLAS & SONS PRODUCT

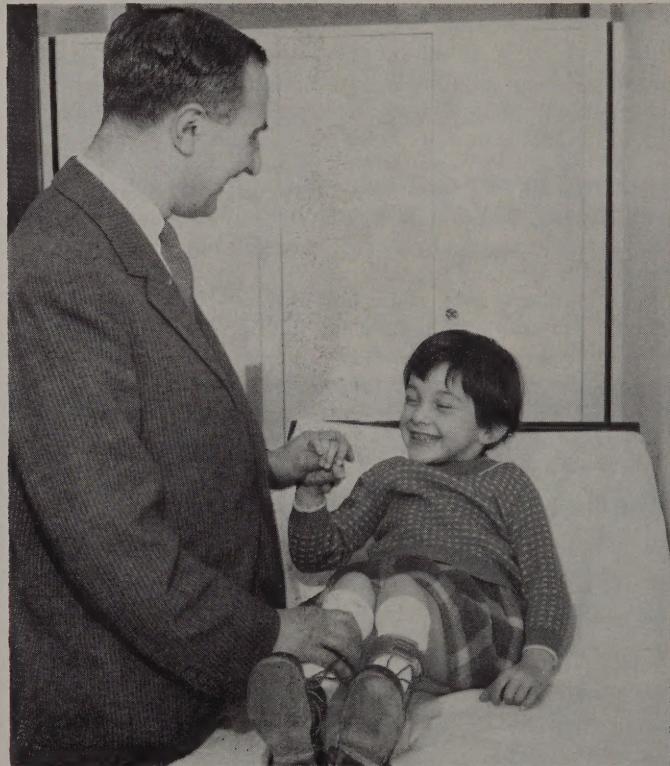


The Assessment Service

HOW can parents cope if they do not know? N.S.S. assessment tries to draw together all the ends. We ask the doctors, the teachers and the parents who have known the children at home what they feel. We then make our own medical and educational finding here at Park Crescent.

We discuss and consider from all points of view. We talk as a Panel—doctor, educationalist, social worker and parent in equal partnership. Together we decide what is best. Together we compromise for the overall best if the ideal is not available. The Panel report goes out to all the local experts having contact with the child and to his local authority. We have no statutory power but our recommendations are, almost without exception, put into operation.

Sometimes assessment means a place in school, sometimes it ends in finding the child trainable in a special centre. Often



it confirms the parents in their guessed-at knowledge that the child is too impaired for help beyond loving care.

The journey is long and the result is often less than the hope has been. But we have tried, always, to be thorough, to be fair and to be humble in our findings and decisions. We want parents who may use this service to know that whilst it is expert it is friendly. Our pictures show what we want to say—the equal partnership between parental knowledge and expert observation. Try to pick the experts from the parents in the picture (bottom left)—you cannot; for who is more expert than the parent?

Whatever the practical outcome may be, happy or sad—it is a unified and unifying finding and parents have the truth as we are able at this stage to see it.



Towards Adult Life

EVERY adult problem has its base in childhood. The spastic child, especially the severely handicapped spastic we are considering in this article, has a great deal of deprivation in childhood, in that his limbs do not function well or to his satisfaction; his senses, in terms of sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch may be imperfect; his vision of the world in terms of space and shape may be harmed: his ability to reason and acquire experience and ultimately to balance his affairs may be impaired, from the mildest to the severest degree. From birth onwards he has not that necessary material for living which we all feel to be our rightful heritage. It is difficult for his parents not to be embittered by their child's deprivation. The danger is that, should they be so embittered as to close in upon their child in protection and thwarted love, they will add to and not detract from his injuries and loss.

Adults with whom the social work department here are intimately involved, are those who, in any stretch of the imagination, will fail to lead an independent life, however carefully arranged. It is therefore necessary for their parents to develop imagination beyond the common. At the time when a child is said to be severely handicapped, it is important for the shocked parents not only to sustain this great blow, but gradually, within a year or so, to be able to see their baby as he may be at 10, at 15, at 25 and in his manhood.

It is not easy for parents of a supposedly normal child to see thus far, and it is doubly difficult, and indeed painful in the extreme, for the parents of a handicapped child to see the path. As social workers, we sometimes have the great joy of experiencing contact with a parent who has had the courage, maturity and imagination to see that far. This experience is as exciting, when it comes, as to be present at the creation of any great and original artistic work. It helps us when we gain this experience from parents to relay it to others who have obstacles standing in their way.

Planning with Purpose

The adult who will never be physically, mentally and emotionally independent will one day need to be cared for when his family are unable. It is necessary for him and his family to aim toward this in the same way that a normal child and his family might otherwise aim toward an independent working life, marriage and responsibilities as an individual in his own right. The achievement for a person who is impaired is none the less because in the eyes of the world independence is not gained. The longer one works beside the courage of the handicapped and the even greater courage of their parents, one sees the real benefit and achievement in small advances. It is now more exciting to me to be

able to say I have seen a 40-year-old man use a spoon for the first time than it would have been, in less mature times, for me to say I had dined with an M.P. and heard his brilliant views on the Common Market. The one has gone ahead with the full, and perhaps supremely full, equipment of body, mind and spirit, and the other has progressed to his success through a battlefield of deprivation and struggle.

In the most agonising time of having learned that your child may never sit, stand, walk, talk, hear, see or recognise the world (depending upon the degree of handicap which has just been revealed to you) you call on us, as workers, for some guide or solution. The solution we cannot give. We have to offer only guidance from the experience we have available. Sometimes our offering is so little in comparison with the problem that parents, in their trouble, cannot hear or receive advice because at the time of worst strain, it seems to be so far from the help they need. It is of little comfort in the first years to be told that the great success of your child will be to use a spoon by the time he is 40 years old, but then neither have you had the opportunity of seeing the delight of such a man on arriving at an adult centre, not quite knowing why he is there, or even where he is, to find that, simply and practically, he is handled and helped until, in a few weeks, he is able, for the first time, to put his own food into his mouth and to know the joy of being able to eat at the rate he desires. If any parents are despondent because in five years of their child's life all they have been able to do toward education is to teach spoon feeding, they can give themselves a great experience by mother sitting down and letting father feed her with a meal, or *vice versa*. Then they will know the simple pleasure of being able to feed independently and will see what a great achievement their courage and perseverance has made for their child. I could go on with a million illustrations of progress which appears to be no progress and success which appears to be defeat, but I think those who live closely with their child, will know without it being said.

Adapting to Limits

Not all the residential places that are available to our adults are places which, in our eyes, are acceptable. One must be frank and say that many of these places are indeed not acceptable, but every possible effort is being made by our Society, the Statutory Authorities and people who care, supported by many parents, to end this situation. Whilst not losing sight of unsuitabilities, I can comfort parents by saying that not all our children and adults see the world as we see it, which is at once their deprivation and their salvation. A severely physically and mentally impaired child will live within a few feet of world, whereas we live within a few miles of world for the larger part, and with a concept of a great universe about us.

It is not possible for some of our children to have a concept of the wonders of our universe and it is wrong of us to press its wonders upon an individual who cannot understand and use them. Far better that we learn, with expert help, the size of our child's world, and ensure that, if it is only a few feet or yards of world, warmth and comfort for those few feet or yards shall be the best our imagination, effort and skill can provide. So let us get over the hurt of the large room with the child at the end who is unsightly to our eyes, and know that the warmth and comfort of the bed, the toys within the cot, the nurse with the feeder, are all the child sees, and, though he may have the physical development of adulthood, he is still needing the support of a baby world. Let us not be deluded into believing that the terror of our child's handicap in our eyes is apparent to him—unless we put it there.

Adapting to Others

Let us know, from childhood, that if our child has intelligence of normal level or even somewhat below average (but is not severely intellectually impaired), he will have to come to terms with his physical and sensory losses. Let us gently bring him toward what the experts tell us he will be able to do, *and not press him toward things that we wish, without foundation in possibilities, for him to be able to do.* The young intelligent handicapped child does not begin life seeing his difference from the physically normal world. As it dawns upon him, so does the deprivation, and it is incumbent upon parents, teachers and people in close contact to be sure that comfort and help for the deprivation are there.

It is, however, equally essential that the child learns of problems outside of his own problem. He should grow to see that, whilst he is perhaps more deprived than others, his unhandicapped fellows have problems with which they too have to struggle. Let him know that, though his problem is seen, the problems of many are unseen. At least he has the advantage that people will be recognising his difficulty and, within varying limits of individual capability, sharing it. One of the main difficulties for the handicapped adult joining a community life is lack of insight into other people's difficulties. As individuals they cannot be blamed for this inability: it is based on the fact that we have isolated them by our own loving care and protection. It is difficult to see month by month the growing isolation, and difficult to withdraw protection when it seems to be the only thing we have to offer.

We must, however, face the fact that in later life when we are not here to care and protect, there will be people with whom our boy or girl may be unable to get along. We all know, as adults, that the job of childhood and adolescence is to learn to adapt ourselves to many sorts and orders of situation. As our handicapped child is deprived in many ways from gaining the natural experience toward this, we must be doubly careful that he or she should see the need and, within his limits, be able to adapt.

What makes a youngster of 16 unable to settle at an adult centre? Is it his degree of physical handicap? Never in our experience of our Centres have we had a youngster fail because of this. Is it because the staff were unable to see his individual need? This is often thought to be the case by loving parents who understand, and fear that others won't. The staff of the Society as a whole, however, spend much time in learning to understand individuals, and the understanding of the staff, from the warden down to the driver, handyman, is amazing to those in daily contact with them. Is it then the degree of mental backwardness? Just occasionally this is so, and sometimes, too, we have found that the strains of a given Centre are too much, gentle though they are, for the degree of understanding remaining to the impaired young person. Much more often, however, a failure to be happy, or happy within reasonable human terms, is found to be because the lad cannot see that his 25 mates don't want his wireless blaring pop at every moment when he has this desire, or he fails to see that his particular behaviour at a meal-table is upsetting to the chap next to him and is unable to modify his behaviour, not because of physical disability or even social inability, but because he has not been used to concerning himself with the feelings of others. Almost all failures in life are based on failure of human relationships and this applies to normal and impaired people alike. We cannot expect the fine differentiation which we place upon ourselves, having full capacity, to be imposed upon our handicapped fellows, but we can expect differentiation and social insight within what is their known ability and this must be our aim for groups of adults in residential care. They must be able to receive physical help, stimulation and social intercourse at the level of their group.

Within the Society our grouping is very careful and we take great pains to assess before placing. Having assessed at the right level, it is then the boy or girl's own character and background, based upon their home and school life, which will make or break the adjustment.

THE CONCERT

by

PAT RAND - PRESTED HALL

ONE Sunday morning I was coming out of the dining room after breakfast feeling sorry for myself. A friend asked me if I would like to go and hear Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto—my favourite and his also. I went!

By 2 p.m. that afternoon, six spastics were ready and waiting in the 'bus for Mr. Watson, the Warden and two students who are staying with us for a while from other countries.

* In the Festival Hall I sat in a wheelchair which we had borrowed from there. The Hall always does thrill me with its thick red walls and all the people coming and going. I saw the orchestra was the Philharmonia, with Arthur Rubinstein as soloist. It was going to be a wonderful concert.

I watched the conductor's hands as he brought the orchestra

in. He looked young to be a conductor, I thought. I was looking forward to hearing Arthur Rubinstein play Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto, and I wasn't disappointed. When the Concerto came to an end the pianist took about ten bows and I hurt my hand by clapping too much, but yet I couldn't stop myself clapping, my hands went on.

I do not care for Stravinsky's *Firebird* very much, but that evening the work made me laugh a little and I felt excitement as I watched the conductor. He looked like a spastic the way he was moving his hands about.

I have been to the Royal Festival Hall many times before but I think that this was the best concert that I have ever been to. I think it was more enjoyable because it was so unexpected. I forgot my troubles for a while.



PEPPERMINTS FOR POSTMEN

Before Christmas, the Director and some of his staff went down to the Western District G.P.O. to thank the postmen who coped so well with the Society's enormous Christmas Seals mail.

Mr. Gordon J. Norton, Assistant Postmaster, said that on an average day in the year the Western deals with about half-a-million items of post from collections. From September, with the kindly help of the N.S.S., other charities, and mail-order firms, the number is increased to upwards of 800,000 items, until December, when the general public sends the total up to a figure it's better not to think of. Five hundred postmen cope with all this.

"Of course, we're very grateful to the Spastics Society", said Mr. Norton solemnly, "giving us all this nice work."

Shirley Keene, the Society's lecturer, bestows a peppermint on each amused "hero of the rush", from a candy-jar held at the ready by Anne Plummer, Chief Records Clerk. Later Shirley started the Post Office railway train on its underground journey, carrying parcels and letters for sorting.
For some time now, little has been seen of the Christmas mail staff at Park Crescent except the tops of their heads, and we are hoping that at final count the Society will have made as many thousands of pounds as there are peppermints in the bottle



(Pic. by courtesy Watford and West Herts Post)

Working on Sundays, under the guidance of Mr. John Angrave, of Chorleywood, a professional landscape gardener, Rickmansworth Round Tablers have been undertaking "Operation Big-Dig" at the new Spastics Centre in St. Albans Road, Watford. They volunteered to cultivate the surrounding land and plant flowers

(Right) TV comedienne, Hattie Jacques, receives a cheque for £100 to help Spastics, at the Cross Keys Public House, Dagenham. The money was raised by patrons. Nearly £200 has been contributed over the past few months



(Pic. by courtesy of the Dagenham Post)



(Left) New Swansea Work Centre: On November 20 Lord Brecon, Minister of State for Welsh Affairs, opened Swansea's fine £10,000 Work Centre, to which the N.S.S. subscribed about £3,000. Here he and Lady Brecon examine some of the work produced there, with Mr. Bill Paton (left) the Group's Secretary, and (right) its Chairman, Mr. Emrys Williams

(Pic. by courtesy of South Wales Evening Post)

(Right) Miss Violet Carson, better known as Ena Sharples of "Coronation Street", presented the first prize—a scooter—to Mr. Gerald Brooks, in a competition organised by Exeter and Torbay Districts Spastics Society. The competition realised £1,100

(Pic. by courtesy of the Western Times Co Ltd.)





(Left) The Spastics Michaelmas Fayre, organised by the Brighton, Hove and District Branch of the N.S.S., was full of good things, with over thirty stalls, a guinea-pig derby, a show by Tony Hart, B.B.C. children's television artist, a dancing display, a popular sideshow organised by the Burgess Hill Lions, and cheerful support from the Pearly King and Queen and from Pierre, the international clown, who ran a contest to discover the most attractive little girl between the ages of two and seven.

The show was opened by the Countess of Rosse, supported by the Mayors and Mayoresses of Brighton and Hove. The target aimed at was £1,000, and there was a record attendance.

Among the bright ideas which glittered on this occasion, was a crazy competition to guess the number of spots on this handsome Dalmatian known to his friends as Charlie, owned by Miss Margaret Blythe. He did his bit by helpfully moving just as competitors hoped they were getting somewhere

(Pic. by courtesy of Brighton and Hove Herald)

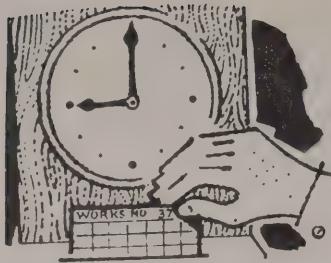


(Right) Lady Lewisham admires articles made by spastic home-workers at the very successful Sussex Handicraft Exhibition and Sale for the Disabled, held at Eastbourne recently. Showing her some of the attractive jewellery is Mrs. Quenault, Organising Secretary of the East Sussex Group, which runs a Treatment Clinic in Battle, and which hopes to arrange another Handicrafts Exhibition in March



(Left) At the end of the old year a new organisation was launched—the Mill Hill and District Friends of Spastics Committee. The new Group raised over £100 at their dinner and dance at the Hendon Hall Hotel, which was attended, among many other supporters, by the Mayor and Mayoress of Hendon, Alderman and Mrs. W. Lloyd-Taylor, Mr. L. V. Holland, Chairman of the Northern Home Counties Regional Council, Mr. L. Hide, Chairman of the Central Middlesex Group, Mr. W. Targett, Chairman of the N.W. London Group, Mr. T. Jackson, Chairman of the Watford Group and the Northern Home Counties Regional Officer, Mr. R. C. Lemarie. In our picture, Miss Pat Cawse, who works at the Ruislip Centre, presents a bouquet to the Lady Mayoress, watched by the Lord Mayor and the Chairman of the new group, Mr. K. F. O. Stallard

(Pic. by courtesy of the Edgware Post)



News of interest from the Employment front includes the following items:

Julia Archer, from **Wandsworth**, has changed her job following Tickopres training at Dovercourt, and is now working as an operator for a manufacturing concern in Wimbledon.

Eric Ashlee, from **Croydon**, has now received a petrol-driven chair and is able to return to his previous employment with Remploy.

David Bean, from **Southend**, is employed in the coil-winding section of a local radio concern.

John Bradley, from **Stockton-on-Tees**, who attended an assessment course in Birmingham during the summer, is now employed in the stockroom of a tailoring concern in Darlington.

Jeffery Harris, from **Woodford Halse**, near Rugby, is working for a firm of export packing services.

Joan Painter, from **Tooting**, is doing clerical work for a firm of toy manufacturers in Merton.

Helen Babbington, from Glasgow, having completed her training at Stockport is now working.

June Briggs, from Leeds, a former Stockport trainee, has changed her job and is again employed as a Tickopres operator for a local firm.

William Gibbon, from Foulksmills, Eire, who attended the recent Assessment Course at Chigwell is now working as a cable tester for a manufacturing concern in Surrey.

Anita Godman, from Herne Bay, following her training at Stockport is now living in Ruislip and working locally for a Supermarket company as an Assistant Filing Clerk.

Patricia Gough, from Cobridge, after training at Stockport has also been placed in employment.

Irene MacDonald, from Gloucester is working as a general office assistant for a local firm, following her training at Stockport.

Derek Pinney, from Tredegar, has commenced employment on a trial basis as a storeman for a local garage.

Eveline Rhodes, from Selsey has given up her job and returned home to live where she works as a jewellery maker under the Homeworkers scheme.

Dunstan Swaby, from London, is employed by a firm of wholesale clothing manufacturers in Hackney.

Ralph Taylor, from Churwell, who attended a recent Assessment Course at Hawksworth Hall is now employed by Remploy in Leeds.

Carol Webb, from Luton, who trained at Sherrards, has changed her job and is now employed in the inspection department of a local firm of plastics manufacturers.

Max Wishart, from Silloth, is employed as a book-keeper in Maryport.

Exeter :

Kenneth Thompson, of Newport Road, Exeter, is a lively-minded young man with a talent for collecting for good causes. His latest achievement is to sell 500 competition tickets for the local spastics society—a tremendous feat, as he is partly disabled as a spastic himself.

The competition was to estimate the attendance at the Motor Show. Kenneth's effort helped towards the total of £1,100 which the funds of the Exeter and Torbay Spastics Society gained by the contest.

(Edited from Western Times)

Regional Conference

The Fourth annual Eastern Regional Conference to be held at the Angel Hotel, Peterborough, has been arranged for April 7, 1963. The programme will contain the names of guest speakers eminently known for their work and experience in the field of cerebral palsy, with current facts and views of interest to all.

Miss Shirley Keene:

Miss Keene is to visit Australia next summer, and will be out of the country from April 1 to September 10. Would interested Groups please note that no bookings for lectures can be made for this period.

Norfolk and Norwich :

At the Buxton Bowls Club annual dinner recently, Mrs. J. Barnes, Vice-President of the Norfolk and Norwich Spastic Association, was presented with a cheque for £112 16s. 3d. collected by the Club in 1962. These generous people have raised money for the Association for several years, each year increasing their target.



(Pic. by courtesy of Sydenham Gazette)
This is Angela Knibbs, 20 years old, of 131 Southend Lane, Bellingham. She is receiving the Duke of Edinburgh's silver medallion and certificate for camping and cookery from Mrs. E. Wood, the Lewisham Division Commissioner. Angela is a spastic, whose mother was told when she was a baby that she would never be able to speak or walk

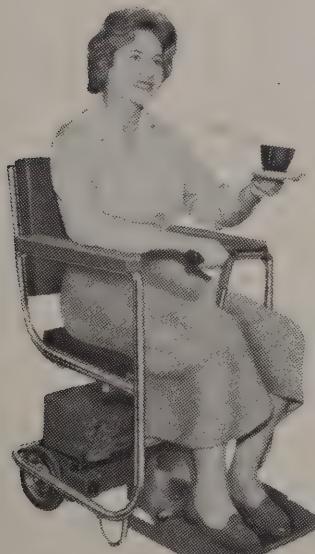
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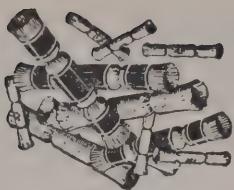
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Schools & Centres

Daresbury Hall

DARESBURY in December was deep in mud. And builders. And more mud. And unfinished bits of mysterious structures sticking up everywhere. Mr. Bellman, the Warden, took a long look at all this and carried everyone off to the pantomime in Manchester.

In January, when the paths are clear again, there will be a grand "Welcome Back" party, when residents will invite their friends to an afternoon's entertainment, tea, and an evening concert complete with skiffle group and soloists.

Irton Hall School

UP in cold Cumberland, the high spot of the party at Irton Hall School was a dazzling display of conjuring tricks by Mr. Parker, a local well-wisher and volunteer. Then the tea, and a boisterous welcome for Father Christmas, who gave out presents from the great Christmas tree hung with fairy lights.

All the school was decorated, and Management Committee members and their families were there enjoying the colour and games and gaiety with the children.

Hawksworth Hall

IN Yorkshire, at Hawksworth Hall, Father Christmas came down feet first from the loft, soon after tea.

By this time nobody was surprised by anything: it had been a good week. First a visit to the grotto of a Bradford store, where the children were the guests of the management and staff. Back home at Hawksworth, there was the tea, and Father Christmas, and a wonderful marionette show put on by local Round Tablers, which delighted the children.

Next day it was their turn to entertain staff and villagers, with a nativity play, most beautifully done, and a carol service. Two days later, off they went home—to start on another round of celebrations and fun, good luck to them.

Coombe Farm



Prested Hall and The Grange

PRESTED and the Grange, naturally, kept up their celebrations for four days, off and on, including a film show specially given by The Romford Round Tablers. The Prested Grangers are widely known for their ability to make the most of life, and a four days' round of gaiety was no bother to them at all, as you can see from our picture above.

Thomas Delarue School

DOWN at Delarue a strong musical tradition has grown up over the years, and in the last week of term the school's fine choir always visits the Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital, Tonbridge, the High Hilden Old People's Home, and Hardwick House, Hildenborough, to sing to patients and residents.

The school party on December 17 also followed traditional lines, with gifts presented to everyone, students and staff, by the Sportsmen's Aid Society—generous and friendly benefactors to the School for several years. After a sumptuous tea students put on sketches, written and produced by themselves.

The next morning, in a very different mood, was held the service of carols. Nine lessons were read, and carols sung by the choir and by the whole congregation. Almost a hundred parents came to the school for this grave, beautiful and most memorable celebration of Christmas time.

Sherrards

INTENSE preparations, all in the hands of the trainees themselves, produced a very happy family Christmas at Sherrards Centre, Welwyn.

At the trainees' party the Acton Police party and the Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir provided magnificent entertainment, and the centre was visited by carol-singers from the local Methodist Church.

(Left) As well as a Christmas dinner and an entertainment—"Blihe Spirit"—given to an audience of about 200, residents at Coombe Farm took part in a fine series of Nativity tableaux, one of which is shown here

Ingfield Manor School

INGFIELD did not miss a good Christmas dinner and a happy party, before it broke up for the end of term, but perhaps the children will best remember—the visitors certainly will—the exquisite nativity play, in which every one of the children took part. Glowing with colour, beautifully dressed, the children went seriously and gently through the movements of the Christmas story, to a narrative and music recorded at the School on an earlier day. Joseph pushed Mary in her wheelchair, Gabriel, in floating white and gold, came quietly through the audience to join the tableau. While two of the staff children played a tune on their recorders, the shepherds brought a gift of a sheepskin run, and all the children, dressed in their School uniforms, brought presents for the Baby—favourites from their own treasured possessions.

At the Christmas dinner next day, all the staff and children, gardeners, houseparents, everyone—sat down to dinner together, while volunteers brought in the dishes. There were three hearty cheers for the cook!

Wilfred Pickles School

At the Eighth Annual Christmas Party for the 70 Pickles' pupils, the dining hall was beautifully decorated, by the houseparents, on the theme of an enchanted snow storm. A large Christmas cake had been baked by one of the cooks of R.A.F. Cottesmore and presented to the School. The R.A.F. at Cottesmore, organised by W.O. Langford have been extremely good friends of the School for some considerable

time. They provide birthday presents for all the pupils, and have subscribed sufficient funds for all the Christmas presents.

After a scrumptious tea, a tribute to the skill and ingenuity of the kitchen staff, a film show was held in the School Hall. Then a magnificent display of performing dogs. Then—the entrance of Father Christmas!

Craig-y-Parc

THIS year Craig-y-Parc, house and classrooms gaily decorated, rocked slightly on its foundations to the tune of Christmas carols, parties and games, individual "acts" and more carols in the Assembly Hall on December 5.

This kept up until half-past three, when Father Christmas arrived with his sleigh pulled amiably along by Loppy Luggs, the school pony. Houseparents in fancy dress delivered wonderful presents, all provided through local donations.

Refreshed by a staggering party tea the children went over to the classrooms to see a pantomime, "Cinderella", put on for them by the Radyr Women's Institute, Cardiff. This was a roaring success.

The Arundel Hotel

THE Arundel holiday hotel was full to capacity at Christmas time, with 19 guests. Christmas Day was one long feast, with dancing to the music of the record-player and a visit by carol singers from the High School. In addition, a visit is planned in early January to a local pantomime, "The Sleeping Beauty".



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TYPEWRITING FOR SPASTICS

THE following brief report on the teaching of typewriting to the cerebrally palsied is based upon information recently gathered from the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre at Headington, Oxford, the Thomas Delarue Grammar School at Tonbridge, Kent, and the William Turner Training Centre for Adult Spastics at Stockport, Cheshire. While not aiming to be comprehensive, it is hoped that it will be of assistance to teachers who may be required to help spastic young people to type and thereby attain great joy in self-expression.

Much will depend upon the degree of handicap, which will affect teaching methods, position and type of machines and additional aids required. Those fortunate enough to have two good hands can easily learn the usual method, i.e. splitting the keyboard mentally in half, giving each hand the same number of keys to manipulate, and typing without looking at the keyboard. Those with one good hand only use the keyboard in the manner most comfortable to themselves. The spasmodic and jerky movements of the athetoid creat the greatest difficulty and despite their natural diligence and concentration they often hit the wrong key. They usually make steady progress, however, and derive great satisfaction from their typewriting, as their handwriting is often almost undecipherable.

Often there should be much patient experiment to discover which fingers can be usefully employed and it is important that student be then encouraged in full use of these fingers all the time. When the student cannot aim at, and strike one key only, the use of a guard is of great help. This consists of a cover placed over the keyboard with holes centred over each key. Some of the well-known firms will make such a guard—e.g. Imperial and I.B.M., but it can be easily made in the workshop. The student puts his finger through the hole to strike the key. This eliminates the jamming of the keys at the striking point. Where a student is unable to isolate a finger for this purpose, he may be able to hold a pencil or piece of dowelling in the clenched fist and strike the key that way. Sometimes this has been managed when the "pusher" is gripped by the toes or by a band round the head or in the mouth. In very difficult cases, it may be necessary to give preliminary training before the typewriter is used at all, e.g. finger exercises on the table, or even painting with the finger. For this, circles are drawn on paper and the student dips his finger in the paint and makes a mark in each circle as required. As the student becomes more accurate in aim, the circles are made smaller. If the circles are lettered to correspond to the keyboard, the student gains knowledge of the keyboard at this early stage.

Everything must be done to relieve tension and prevent unnecessary movement and the simplest thing will often help, e.g. a cushion behind the shoulder-blades will stop throwing back the shoulders and lifting hands high every time the keys are struck. Strapping the legs to the chair, providing a firm foot rest, a block of wood lying in front of the space bar on which to rest and steady the hand, tying the arm to the arm of the chair, a copy holder at the side or back of the machine, all these can bring an appreciable improvement in the movement. Athetoids can often be trained to steady the hand with which they are typing by holding the wrist firmly with the other hand.

Gramophone records have been specially prepared by Pitman's of London which give instruction when to commence typing and when to return the carriage. The student

is expected to keep time with music whilst copying an exercise from one of Pitman's typewriting manuals. The use of records teaches rhythmic touch, helps increase the speed, and loosens stiff fingers. Even beginners can use these records and have their interest stimulated from the word "go".

The placing of the machine in relation to the student is also important. Spastics seem to be able to work more easily at tables that are slightly lower than normally used: 24-26 inches. Generally the more heavily handicapped prefer lower tables. Students in wheelchairs may need to have the arms of their chairs cut away to facilitate their sitting close enough to the machine to operate it properly.

The choice of machine, too, depends upon degree of handicap. It is probably advisable to give a good grounding on a manual machine before transferring to an electric machine on which reasonable speeds can be built, even by students not able to use all fingers. Students whose hands are very weak may need an electric machine from the beginning, though sometimes the sensitiveness of the machine may cause distress as the student may inadvertently touch the wrong key while striking another, and thus have a great many errors. The work of the I.B.M. Company and the National Polio Fund in making available these electric machines at reduced rates for disabled people has been a magnificent contribution to the lives of those they have helped. The following comments from athetoids illustrating the points for and against the electric machine are relevant:—

"No effort is required to press the keys".

"I like the flat broad key much better".

"The type is even no matter what pressure is used on the keys".

"The shift keys do not require as much effort to hold down as a manual typewriter".

"It is much quicker even though I am not trying to speed".

"There is far less effort required".

"On an electric typewriter, once the key is struck, there is no withdrawing, the letter has been printed".

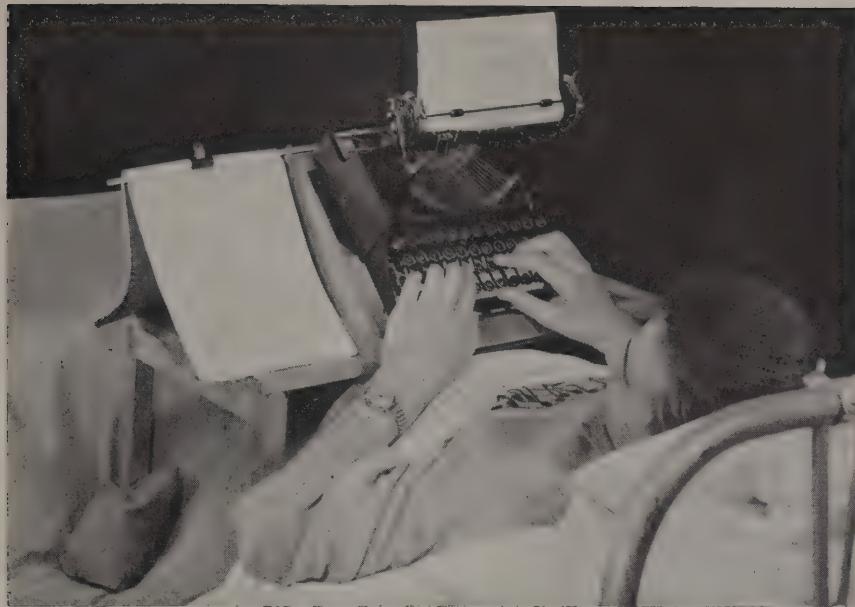
"Involuntary movements may cause the keys to be touched whilst one is not paying full attention to the typewriter, e.g. when talking".

Lastly, to prevent frustration and avoid tension, the teacher can always adapt his material and control the tempo of learning. While students able to use all fingers can use any good textbook, e.g. Pitman, Gregg, etc., where only some fingers are used, it is better to prepare individual exercises to ensure that the keyboard is progressively mastered and that the typing is done with the minimum amount of effort that the handicap allows. Careful preparation of passages with the students to ensure that there are neither language nor comprehension difficulties is well worth while before unseen passages are attempted.

There is also a ten-key typewriter in use, details of which can be obtained from Dr. R. Conrad, Assistant Director, R.M.C., Applied Psychology Research Unit, Cambridge.

The Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre write that they have found the following technical gadgets and equipment invaluable in teaching typing to persons suffering from physical handicaps:—

(a) Distaffs for patients suffering from upper limb paralysis with good lower limbs, can produce good speed with practice. (See picture opposite page.)



(Left) For students lying supine, a wooden wedge top bolted to a stand-over bed makes an excellent table. A movable dowelling extension can be easily arranged by cup hooks to the top of the wedge, on which copy can be hung

(b) Rockers or ball-bearing arm supports attached to the wheelchair, are particularly helpful for upper limb weakness.

(c) Weights in the form of small handbags placed on the wrist, or even on finger tips.

(d) The Possum (Patient Operated Selector Mechanism) which enables very severely disabled people to type by mouth pneumatic control provided the mouth retains its normal function. This was demonstrated at Olympia in May, 1962, by the Committee for Research on Apparatus for the Disabled. (See picture opposite.)

Finally, the Avondale Engineering Company of Bolton, Lancs., are developing typewriting facilities to be used in connection with their "Selectascan" Unit.

Correspondence will be welcomed from all who wish to comment upon or add to the ideas expressed here. The more ideas and proven experience we can gather, the more we can help the spastic to develop through vital expression.



(Above) The Distaff, which makes possible foot-control typing where hands and arms cannot be used

(Left) From a mechanical point of view, the mouth is a remarkably good controller: the Switch required for this Possum typewriter conversion needs only 1 c.c. of air to turn it. Full keyboard facilities are provided, and continuous perforated stationery is used

(Pic. by courtesy of the *Nursing Mirror*)

Book Review

"THE FAIR TO MIDDLING"
by Arthur Calder Marshall
Penguin Books, 3s. 6d.



THIS is a well-written and highly imaginative story of one day in the lives of people connected with Alderman Winterbottom's School for Incapacitated Orphans. A generous patron of the school gives the 78 pupils half-a-crown each to be spent at the Bank Holiday Fair in the nearby village of Middling. Among the more conventional sideshows, five of the children and a young woman teacher each discover a stall which has meaning for him or her alone. These booths lead to a series of adventures in fantasy, at the end of which all, in different ways, have learnt to come to terms with their various handicaps and accept themselves as they really are. As a result of the day's happenings, three of the grown-ups too, have found a new outlook on life.

It is difficult to tell for which age-group the story is intended. The child characters are convincingly described and brought to life by realistic if rather old-fashioned illustrations by Raymond Briggs. Humour is achieved by a kind of gentle irony and a play upon words which should appeal to the younger reader. However, there are Faustian elements in some of the dream sequences which might puzzle a child, and Florence and Wally's particular vision of Hell has strong echoes of an adult satire on materialist society, such as Orwell's "1984".

The story of Peter Ambrose, compensated for increasing blindness by extra-sensitive hearing, is handled with a quasi-religious sentimentality which some might find distasteful. It also seems a little unfair that one of the other orphans should actually be cured of colour-blindness after taking a Magic Pill.

Certainly, the grown-ups must be made to believe in miracles, but the transformation of Wally Stubbs, moral rather than physical, is more credible. It is enough to convince even the cynical Mr. Carruthers. The decision of Lawrie Hudson, the albino boy, to become a biologist when he grows up, in order to help find a cure for albinism, is also quite effective.

This unusual book is not, perhaps, one which will have a very wide appeal, but it explores with sympathy and understanding the various ways in which different people can find self-fulfilment, especially those endowed with only "fair-to-middling" physical equipment for living.

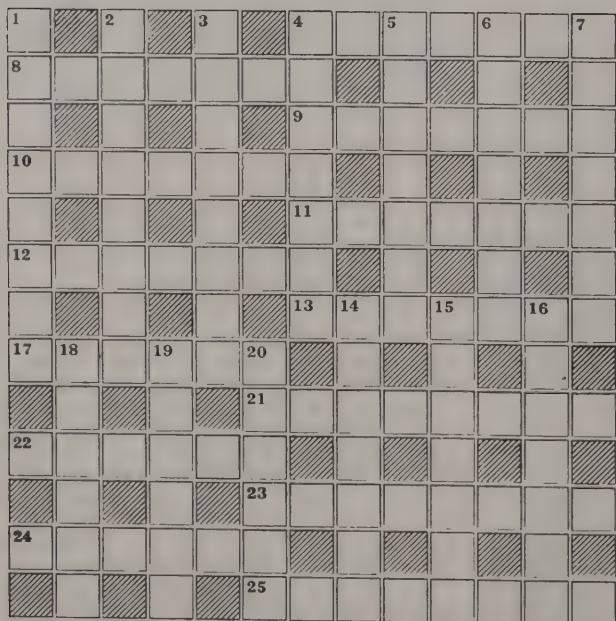
Anne Plummer.

★ ★ ★ ★

FRIEND TO SPASTICS

Christopher Tovell, of 56 Mount Road, Southdown, Bath, has sent us a doll for a little spastic girl every Christmas for several years. This year, although Christopher had just lost his father and this was a sad Christmas for him, he did not forget. A beautiful golden-haired doll with blue eyes arrived as usual. We'd like to say thank you to a nice boy for a nice idea, kept to so faithfully, and to wish Christopher and his family a very good 1963.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 32



ACROSS

4. Tenacious little adherents. 7.
8. Her suit needs little alteration to fit Esau. 7.
9. Coquettishness. 7.
10. Foil for early fashion. 3, 4.
11. Time on my hands! 7.
12. The indiscretion of some little drip or other. 7.
13. Undoubtedly she's a man-eater. 7.
17. I am bound to be when small. 6.
21. "Lure us in" (anag.) 8.
22. Jet has ousted it for speed's sake. 6.
23. Vainglorious as a 2. 8.
24. The black Nile. 6.
25. Officially the dweller is obsolescent. 8.

DOWN

1. Moved uneasily at the start of contract! 8.
2. Perhaps he crows about his palindromic rag stuffing. 8.
3. Airborne body as it were. 8.
4. A scrap of airborne propaganda. 7.
5. ". . . the air with colours idly spread." King John. 7.
6. Carry out—headless. 7.
7. Foxiest of characteristics. 7.
14. Harnesses in topsy-turvy snaps. 7.
15. "How lov'd, how honour'd once, avails thee not,
To whom . . . , or by whom begot;" A. Pope. 7.
16. An open-air tanning so to speak. 7.
18. Poppy's sedative as it were. 6.
19. That flaming artist! 6.
20. Here Durban exchanged two letters with Scotland. 6.

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MISS JOAN MILLER, a spastic homemaker, has recently purchased a Gestetner machine and is seeking orders for news sheets, agendas and general duplicating work. Orders please to—

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* * *

Pen Friend Wanted

Miss Jennifer Hazel Mann, an energetic young person aged 13 years, is looking for a pen friend. Jennifer is a lightly handicapped spastic, and her hobbies are cycling, music and Guides. Friends of similar tastes please write to her at:—

148 Beerton Road,
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Solution to December Crossword

ACROSS	23. Boredom	3. Lemon	17. Otago
1. Herald Angels	27. Tripe	4. Awake	18. Scoop
8. Madam	28. Motto	5. Giant	20. Dame
9. Argot	29. Cover	6. Lager	21. Nitre
10. Oaken	30. Peace on Earth	7. Stab	22. Stoic
12. Strange		11. Agnes	23. Bingo
15. Throb	DOWN	13. Trite	24. Recce
19. King Wenceslas	1. Humus	14. Angry	25. Diver
20. Denys	2. Rider	16. Haste	26. Myrrh

HOLIDAYS FOR THE DISABLED

are pleased to announce that, through the generosity of Mr. T. Watson, their annual holiday for 1963, will be held at Caister-on-Sea Holiday Camp, near Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, from Friday, May 10 to Friday, May 17.

All particulars from the Secretary,

RON TRAVERS,

108B Priory Road, London, N.W.6.

DON'T THROW AWAY YOUR OLD PAPERBACKS

The Jersey Group makes good money from selling them at 1s. each to summer visitors—so please send your "cast-outs" to the CHIEF REGIONAL OFFICER, 12 Park Crescent, who will consign them in bulk to Jersey.

NATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CENTRES OF THE N.S.S.

SCHOOLS

THE THOMAS DELARUE SCHOOL

Dene Park, Tonbridge, Kent.
Telephone: Tonbridge 3859.
Headmaster:
H. B. Davies, Esq., M.B.E., B.Sc.(Econ.).
Chairman of the Board of Governors:
Douglas Delarue, Esq., J.P.
Secondary Modern and Grammar Education for Spastics of 11 years and over.
Accommodation: 72.

THE CRAIG-Y-PARC SCHOOL

Pentrych, Nr. Cardiff.
Telephone: Pentrych 397.
Headmistress:
Mrs. C. M. Kearslake.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
Miss M. B. Jowett, M.B.E.
Primary and Secondary Education for Spastics between 5 and 16 years.
Accommodation 50.

THE WILFRED PICKLES SCHOOL

Tixover Grange, Duddington,
Nr. Stamford.
Telephone: Duddington 212.
Headmaster:
R. A. Pedder, Esq.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
Eric Smith, Esq.
Primary and Secondary Education for Spastics between 5 and 16 years.
Accommodation: 62, 8 Day Pupils.

IRTON HALL SCHOOL

Holmrook, Cumberland.
Telephone: Holmrook 242.
Headmaster:
John Nelson, Esq.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
J. D. Herd, Esq.
Education for Spastics reputed to be below average intelligence.
Accommodation: 41.

INGFIELD MANOR SCHOOL

Five Oaks, Nr. Billingshurst, Sussex.
Telephone: Billingshurst 294.
Headmistress: Miss E. M. Varty.
Education for spastics aged 5-16 reputed to be below average intelligence.
Accommodation: 50.

ASSESSMENT CENTRE

HAWKSWORTH HALL

Guiseley, Leeds, Yorks.
Telephone: Guiseley 2914.
Principal: J. D. Johnson, Esq.
Assessment Centre for Spastic children between 5 and 13 years.
Accommodation: 24.

ADULT CENTRES

DARESBURY HALL

Daresbury, Nr. Warrington, Lancs.
Telephone: Moore 359.
Warden: F. W. Bellman, Esq.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
A. W. Hill, Esq.,
Residential Centre for Male Spastics aged from 16 to 35 years.
Accommodation: 34.

COOMBE FARM

Oaks Road, Croydon, Surrey.
Telephone: Addiscombe 2310.
Warden: F. W. Bowyer, Esq., M.A.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
R. Meek, Esq.
Residential Centre for Spastics aged from 16 to 25 years. Accommodation: 45.

PRESTED HALL & THE GRANGE

Feering, Kelvedon, Essex.
Telephone: Kelvedon 482.
Warden: J. H. Watson, Esq.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
Miss Mary Ruck, R.R.C.
Residential Centre for Spastics aged from 25 to 40 years. Accommodation: 31.

THE GRANGE:

High Street, Kelvedon.
Accommodates 13 Spastics over the age of 40 years.

TRAINING CENTRE

"SHERRARDS "

Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts.
Telephone: Welwyn Garden 22125.
Principal: E. L. Knight, Esq.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
The Hon. Lady Bowes Lyon.
Vocational Training Centre for young adult Spastics.
Accommodation: 31.

HOLIDAY HOTELS

ARUNDEL PRIVATE HOTEL

23, The Leas, Westcliff-on-Sea.
Telephone: Southend 476351.
Manageress: Miss M. Burden.
Hotel for Spastics and accompanying relatives or friends. Accommodation: 19.
Write to Manageress for bookings.

S.O.S. HOLIDAY HOTEL FOR SPASTIC CHILDREN

Colwall Court, Bexhill.
Telephone: Bexhill 1491.
Chairman of the Management Committee:
David Jacobs, Esq.
Accommodation: 23.

SCHOOLS AFFILIATED TO THE N.S.S.

BIRKENHEAD SCHOOL

43 Shrewsbury Road, Oxton,
Birkenhead. Tel.: Claughton 2583.
Headmistress:
Mrs. M. Collinge, B.A.

Chairman:
F. H. Campbell, Esq.

Day education and treatment for children between the ages of 5 and 16.

BIRTENSHAW HALL SCHOOL

Darwen Road, Bromley Cross,
Bolton. Telephone: Eagley 230.
Headmaster:
D. A. Hiles, Esq.

Chairman:
W. Sheppard, Esq.

Special education and therapy for 36 spastic children between the ages of 5 and 16. 19 residential and 17 day pupils.

DAME HANNAH ROGERS SCHOOL

Ivybridge, Devon.
Telephone: Ivybridge 461.

Headmistress:
Miss B. G. Sutcliffe.

Chairman:
Norman Capener, Esq., F.R.C.S.

Residential School for 50 cerebral palsied children, boys and girls, between the ages 5 and 16.

PERCY HEDLEY SCHOOL

Forest Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne 12.
Telephone: Newcastle 66-5491/2.
Headmistress:
Mrs. E. M. Caldwell, N.F.F.
Chairman:
Alderman J. Gray, J.P.
Special education for severely disabled children with cerebral palsy who live in the Five Northern Counties.
Accommodation: 32 Day pupils.
40 Boarders.

AFFILIATED GROUPS and Local Centres of the N.S.S.

Eastern Region

Boston District Branch
Chesterfield and District Spastics Society
TC
Derby and District Branch of NSS **T**
Grantham & District Friends of Spastics
Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Friends
of Spastics Society
Ipswich and East Suffolk Spastics Soc. **T**
Leicester and Leicestershire Spastics
Society **TE**
Lincoln Branch
Mansfield and District Friends of Spastics
Group **O**
Newark and District Friends of Spastics
Group
Norfolk and Norwich Spastic Assoc. **T**
Northampton and County Spastics Society
TE
Nottingham and District Friends of
Spastics Group **TEC**
Peterborough and District Spastics Group
O
Scunthorpe and District Spastic Society **C**
Stamford and District Branch of NSS
(Regional Officer: H. G. Knight, 28
Priestgate, Peterborough, Northants.
Tel: 67045)

Midland Region

Cannock Chase Spastic Association
Coventry and District Spastics Society **R**
Dudley and District Spastic Group **O**
North Staffordshire Spastic Association **T**
Shrewsbury and District Spastics Group
Stafford and District Spastic Association
Worcester and District Branch of NSS
(Officer to be appointed)

North-Eastern Region

Barnsley and District Association of the
NSS **C**
Bradford and District Branch of the NSS
Castleford and District Spastics
Committee
Darlington and District Spastics Society **H**
Dewsbury and District Spastics Society
Goole and District Spastics Association
Halifax and District Spastic Group **W**
Huddersfield and District Spastics Soc.
Hull Group, The Friends of Spastics
Society in Hull and District **H**
Leeds and District Spastics Society
Pontefract and District Spastics
Association
Rawmarsh and Parkgate Spastics Society
Sheffield and District Spastics Soc. **TEO**
South Shields and District Spastics
Society **C**
Sunderland and District Spastics Society
Tees-side Parents and Friends of Spastics
TE
York and District Spastics Group **T**
(Reg. Off. R. J. F. Whyte, Royal
Chambers, Station Parade, Harrogate.
Tel: 69655)

North Western Region

Barrow-in-Furness and District Spastic
and Handicapped Children's Society **C**
Birkenhead Spastic Children's Soc. **TEC**
Blackburn and District Spastics Group
Blackpool and Fylde Spastic Group **CW**
Bolton and District Group of the NSS
TE
Burnley Area and Rossendale Spastics
Group
Chester and District Spastics Assoc.
Crewe and District Spastics Society **TO**

Crosby and District Spastics Society
Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness
Spastics Society
Lancaster, Morecambe and District
Spastics Society
Manchester and District Spastics Soc. **TE**
Oldham & District Spastics Society **T**
Preston and District Spastic Group **T**
Sale, Altrincham and District Spastics
Society **RTEC**
Southport, Formby and District Spastics
Society
Stockport, East Cheshire and High Peak
Spastics Society **TEO**
Urmston and District Group of the NSS
TC
Warrington Group for the Welfare of
Spastics
Widnes Spastics Fellowship Group
(Reg. Off: T. H. Keighley, 20 Brazen-
nose Street, Manchester.
Tel: Blackfriars 6130)

Northern Home Counties Region

Bedford and District **TOWE**
Bishop's Stortford and District Group,
Herts Spastics Society
Central Middlesex Spastics Welfare
Society **W**
Clacton and District Group
Colchester and District Group
East Herts Group, Herts Spastics Society
East London Spastic Society **H**
Epping Forest and District Branch of
NSS **TO**
Essex Group of the NSS
Harlow and District Branch
Hatfield and District Group, Herts
Spastics Society
Hemel Hempstead and District Group,
Herts Spastics Society
Hitchin and District Friends of Spastics
Herts Spastics Society
Ilford, Romford and District Spastics
Association **O**
Luton, Dunstable and District Spastics
Group **T**
Maidenhead Friends of Spastics Group
North London Area Association of Parents
and Friends of Spastics **T**
North-West London Group of the NSS **O**
Oxfordshire Spastics Welfare Society
of the NSS **TE**
Reading and District Spastics Welfare
Society **TE**
Slough and District Spastics Welfare
Society
Southend-on-Sea and District Spastics
Society **TEO**
South-West Middlesex Group of the NSS
T
St. Albans and District Group, Herts
Spastics Society **T**
Walthamstow and District Spastics Society
Watford and District Group, Herts
Spastics Society
Welwyn Garden City and District Group,
Herts Spastics Society

Key:

- T**—Treatment Available
- E**—Education
- O**—Occupational Centre
- W**—Work Centre
- H**—Holiday Home
- C**—Child Care
- R**—Residential Centre

Wycombe and District Spastics Society **T**
(Reg. Off: R. C. Lemarie, 524 St.
Alban's Road, North Watford. Tel:
41565)

South-Eastern Region

Bournemouth, Poole and District Spastics
Society **TE**
Brighton, Hove and District Branch **TOC**
Central Surrey Group **W**
Croydon and District Branch **TEW**
East Sussex Group **T**
Folkestone and District Branch of NSS **H**
Isle of Wight Group **TE**
Maidstone Area Spastic Group
Medway Towns Branch of NSS
North Hants and West Surrey Group **TE**
North Surrey Group **W**
North-West Kent Spastics Group **W**
North-West Surrey Group **TE**
Portsmouth and District Spastics Society
TEW
Southampton and District Spastics
Association **TOW**
South-East London Group **T**
South-East Surrey Spastics Group
(Redhill) **TO**
South London Group
South-West London and District Group
South-West Surrey Group **TE**
Thanet Group
Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Area
Group
West Kent Spastics Society Incorporating
Bromley and District Spastics Group
(Reg. Off: H. J. I. Cunningham, 55
London Road, Horsham, Sussex.
Tel: 60100)
(Hampshire Town & Village Organiser:
Capt. C. S. B. Swinley, D.S.O.,
D.S.C., R.N., 32 St. Cross Road,
Winchester. Tel: 61221)

Welsh Region (including Mon.)

Cardiff and District Spastics Assoc. **TC**
Colwyn Bay and District Spastics Society
Conway and District Branch of NSS
Flint Borough Spastics Association
Kenfig Hill and District Spastics Soc. **C**
Merthyr Tydfil and District Spastics Soc.
Montgomeryshire Spastics Society
Pontypridd and District Group
Swansea and District Spastics Association
TCW
(Reg. Off: B. Kingsley-Davies, 2
Saunders Road, Cardiff)

Western Region

Bath and District Spastics Society
Bridgwater and District Friends of
Spastics Association **T**
Bristol Spastics Association **CTOW**
Cheltenham Spastic Aid Association **ET**
Exeter and Torbay Spastics Society
Plymouth Spastic (CP) Assoc. **COETW**
Swindon and District Spastic Society
Yeovil and District Spastics Welfare
Society
(Reg. Off: Mrs. A. Mansel-Dyer, St.
John House, Park Street, Taunton,
Somerset. Tel: 81678)

Jersey Branch of the NSS, Channel
Islands

Chief Regional Officer:

(A. M. Frank, M.C., M.A., 12 Park
Cresc., London, W.1.)

Local Projects Secretary:

(D. Lancaster-Gaye, 12 Park Cresc.,
London, W.1.)

